Message Text

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R 131720Z MAR 75 FM AMCONSUL PARAMARIBO TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1959 INFO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN AMCONSUL CURACAO

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PFOR, NS

SUBJECT: SURINAM LEADERS TO REALM CONFERENCE

REF: PARAMARIBO 046

- 1. GOS DELEGATION TO REALM CONFERENCE ON TERMS OF SURINAM INDEPENDENCE WAS TO DEPART TODAY FOR THE HAGUE. DEL HEADED BY MINPRES HENK ARRON AND INCLUDES ECON MIN EDWARD BRUMA, DEVELOPMENT MIN MICHEL CAMBRIDGE, JUSTICE AND POLICE MIN EDDY HOOST. ADVISORS, MEDIA REPS WILL ACCOMPANY. HOME AFFAIRS MIN CORNELIS OOFTE, ALREADY IN HOLLAND, MAY ALSO PARTICIPATE IN ADDITION ATTENDING LOS CONFERENCE.
- 2. REFTEL LISTED AND COMMENTED UPON MAJOR ITEMS WHICH CONFERENCE IS TO CONSIDER, TOGETHER WITH POINTS LIKELY TO CAUSE SOME TURBULENCE.
- 3. WEEKS PRECEDING CONFERENCE HAVE BEEN NOTABLE FOR NEAR-ABSENCE OF PUBLIC DECLARATIONS BY GOS LEADERS DESIGNED TO PRESSURE DUTCH INTO RESOLVING IN SURINAM'S FAVOR DIFFERENCES BOTH SIDES WILL CARRY TO CONFERENCE. ONLY EDDY HOOST, PNR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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LEFT-WINGER, CALLED PRE-DEPARTURE PRESS CONFERENCE TO CRITICIZE

DUTCH RELUCTANCE TO SUPPORT ENTIRE POST-INDEPENDENCE MILITARY BUDGET, CHARGING GON DOES NOT BELIEVE SURINAM REQUIRES ARMY DESPITE NETHERLANDS FAILURE DEAL "CORRECTLY" WITH BORDER PROBLEMS

- 4. MEANWHILE, MINPRES ARRON, SENSITIVE TO DUTCH WORRY OVER INCREASED RACIAL POLARIZATION AS INDEPENDENCE NEARS, MADE GESTURE TO INDIAN OPPOSITION WITH WRITTEN OFFER TO DISCUSS LATTER'S CONCERNS REGARDING NATIONALITY, HUMAN RIGHTS GUARANTEES, SURINAM CONSTITUTION, AND DEVELOPMENT-ITEMS WHICH WERE SUBJECT OF MINORITY REPORT BY OPPOSITION MEMBERS OF SURINAM SECTION REALM COMMISSION. INDIAN LEADERSHIP REFUSED OFFER AS POINT-LESS, SINCE GOS POSITION "ALREADY DECIDED" (AS IT VIRTUALLY IS). GOS DELEGATION HENCE CAN MAINTAIN TO DUTCH, WHO WILL BE PRESSING ARRON ON THIS, THAT CREOLE COALITION WILLING BE CONCILIATORY BUT SPURNED BY ASIAN OPPOSITION.
- 5. ECON MIN BRUMA LIKELY TO BE QUESTIONED CLOSELY BY DUTCH ON REPORTED PLANS TO TERMINATE SLM-KLM COOPERATION AND LEASE ROYAL JORDANIAN AIRWAYS 707 FOR OPERATING AMSTERDAM ROUTE UNDER SURINAM FLAG (PARAMARIBO 99). BRUMA HAS DODGED QUERIES REGARDING SLM "LINK WITH ARABS" NOTING IT AMOUNTS ONLY TO UNSIGNED LETTER OF INTENT WHICH MUST BE DISCUSSED BY CABINET. CIVIL AVIATION ASPECT OF NEGOTIATIONS COULD BECOME ACRIMONIOUS SINCE DUTCH STILL SMARTING FROM ROUGH TREATMENT ACCORDED NETH MIN TRAFFIC, BUILDINGS AND ROADS WHEN HE HERE TO DISCUSS AIR RELATIONS LAST DEC. (PARAMARIBO A-69).
- 6. FOREMOST UNSETTLED QUESTION, OF COURSE, IS SIZE OF DUTCH DEVELOPMENT AID AND LENGTH OF COMMITMENT. THIS WILL BE SUBJECT OF SOME VERY HARD BARGAINING.
- 7. COMMENT: POSITIONS OF REALM PARTNERS WELL KNOWN AND ALL HAVE WILL TO SETTLE OUTSTANDING DIFFERENCES IN INTEREST SMOOTH TRANSITION TO INDEPENDENCE. THUS PROSPECTS ARE FOR GENERALLY AMICABLE SUMMIT. "ODDS AND ENDS" CONFERENCE NOW SCHEDULED FOR MAY TO ADDRESS QUESTIONS REMAINING FROM REALM MEETING. FLANEGIN

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